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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/730,705	12/08/2003	Dennis A. Borugian	16-122 D1	3985
7590 09/22/2004				
WATTS HOFFMANN CO., L.P.A. P.O. Box 99839 Cleveland, OH 44199-0839			EXAMINER LIEU, JULIE BICHNGOC	
			ART UNIT 2636	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 09/22/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/730,705

Applicant(s)

BORUGIAN, DENNIS A.

Examiner

Julie Lieu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 December 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 14-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 14-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 03/01/04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

### DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to Preliminary Amendment filed December 8, 2003.

Claims 1-13 have been canceled.

#### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 14 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Obradovich (US Patent No. 6,577,928).

#### Claim 14:

Obradovich discloses an apparatus, thus, also a method for scheduling vehicle maintenance, comprising:

- a. An onboard vehicle computer 105 programmed to determine when a maintenance schedule is required
- b. A display 209 coupled to the computer for providing an indication that maintenance is required

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- c. A GPS couple to the computer for identifying a location of the vehicle, the computer being programmed to provide directions to a maintenance facility that is near the vehicle.

Col. 22, last paragraph and col. 23 lines 42-55.

The conditions used in Obradovich to determine when maintenance is needed to be done or to be schedule is not the number of operations or the vehicle mileage. The reference uses the accumulative time of which the vehicle tachometer reading is above a predetermined RPM. However, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art there are different ways of determining a certain maintenance service is need to done on a vehicle. The vehicle mileage is one of the most common condition used by one of ordinary skilled in the art to determined when the vehicle needs to be service. As a matter of fact, in common everyday life, vehicle mileage is one of the most common conditions to decide whether it is time for maintenance. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to compare the vehicle mileage to a predetermined mileage, or equivalently the number of hours of vehicle operation to a predetermined number of hours of operation to determine whether maintenance is need for the vehicle because it is common in the art.

Claim 16:

The rejection of claim 16 recites the rejection of claim 14, except it is a method claim/

4. Claims 15 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Obradovich (US Patent No. 6,577,928) in view of Moore (US Patent No. 6,370,454).

Claim 15:

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It is not clear that the computer in Obradovich is programmed to automatically schedule at the maintenance facility for the vehicle. However, the idea of automatically schedule a maintenance service at a vehicle service facility is well known in the art as taught in Moore, wherein the system is programmed to schedule an appointment for service. Col. 9, line 16-29. Thus, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to readily recognize employing this idea in the system of Obradovich because it provides convenience.

Claim 17:

The rejection of claim 17 recites the rejection of claim 15, except it is a method claim.

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Jenkins et al., US Patent Application 2001/0018628.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Julie Lieu whose telephone number is 571-272-2978. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 9AM-6PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Hofsass can be reached on 571-272-2981. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julie Lieu', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Julie Lieu  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2636

Sept. 19, 04